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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 200
By Winningham

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Coach Joe Sims and the 1996-1997 Celina High School girls' basketball team, Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Class A state runner-up.

WHEREAS, the excellent 1996-1997 Celina High School girls' basketball team has played adroitly, engendering considerable enthusiasm among their many fans and sports writers who love to see a great team perform with determination and success; and

WHEREAS, Celina compiled a fine regular season record of 22-4, with wins over Class AA teams, Livingston Academy, Jackson County, and Smith County and victories against Class A powerhouses Clarkrange, Pickett County, Upperman, Red Boiling Springs, and Gordonsville; and

WHEREAS, the tenacious Lady Bulldogs won the coveted Tri-Lakes Conference title, with a sparkling 10-2 record and were ranked in the Associated Press Top Ten for the entire season; and

WHEREAS, they won the District 5-A Tournament with impressive victories over highly regarded Upperman 67-56 in semifinal action and Clarkrange 65-60 in the finals; and

WHEREAS, Celina next won the prestigious Region 3-A Tournament, overwhelming Trousdale County 74-53 in the quarterfinals, Van Buren County 68-45 in the semifinals and Gordonsville 70-59 in the finals; and

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WHEREAS, the Lady Bulldogs then won their crucial sub-state game, beating Tennessee Preparatory School 85-48 to skillfully gain their fifth state tournament berth in the last six years; and

WHEREAS, at the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Class A State Tournament, this very talented team beat Hancock County 68-48 in the quarterfinals and Collinwood 64-43 in the semifinals; and

WHEREAS, the Lady Bulldogs completed this very memorable season with an enviable 30-5 mark, a winning percentage of .857; and

WHEREAS, the Celina offense averaged 65.1 points per game while the defense allowed a scant 47.5 points per game; and

WHEREAS, the team set a new school record by making an incredible 198 three-point shots, besting the old record of 147 by 51; and

WHEREAS, they also set school records by hitting 46.2 % of their shots from the field and 38.4 % of their 3-point attempts; and

WHEREAS, their legendary head coach, Joe Sims, was recognized with the District Tournament Coach's Award, the Region Tournament Coach's Award and the State Runner-Up Coach's Award; and

WHEREAS, the five sharpshooting starters were: senior center Nicole Davis, an Associated Press second team All-State, and All-State Tournament selection, All-District 5-A Tournament Most Valuable Player, and All-Tri-Lakes Conference choice, who scored more than 1,000 career points; senior forward Jennifer Davenport, a Region 3-A Tournament and Honorable Mention All-Tri-Lakes Conference selection; junior point guard Amanda Kendall, a second team Associated Press All-State selection, Region 3-A Tournament Most Valuable Player, District 5-A Tournament, and All-Tri-Lakes Conference honoree; junior forward Tara Ashlock, an All-State Tournament, All-Region 3-A Tournament, All-District 5-A Tournament and second team All-Tri-Lakes Conference team member; and junior guard Michelle Chambers an

All-State Tournament, All-Region 3-A Tournament, All-District 5-A Tournament, and second team All-Tri-Lakes Conference selection; and

WHEREAS, the super subs were senior guard Kaylan Walker, Honorable Mention All-Tri-Lakes Conference and junior guard Crystal Price, Honorable Mention All-Tri-Lakes Conference; and

WHEREAS, each of the other members of the team made a significant contribution to the success of the team. They were juniors Amber Isenberg and Andrea McLerran; sophomores Trinity Weddle, Amanda Thompson, Erica Melton and Janet Barlow; and freshmen Courtney Cross, an All-Tri-Lakes Conference Freshman Team member, Dona Key, Cera Burnette and Claudia Bailey; and

WHEREAS, Coach Sims was ably assisted by two of the best trainers in the business, Steve Moore and Keith Monday; and expert public address announcer and statistician Darrell Collins; and

WHEREAS, the scorebook was kept by Libbi Donaldson, the statistics were compiled by Susan Arms, the shot chart was kept by Molly Reecer and the video technician was Jon West; and

WHEREAS, it is indeed fitting that we pause to reflect on the glorious season recently completed by the Celina Lady Bulldogs and on the numerous accomplishments of this outstanding squad; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor and congratulate Coach Joe Sims and the 1996-1997 Celina High School girls' basketball team on an exemplary season and wish them well in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That appropriate copies of this resolution be prepared for presentation to the school and to each person named above, with this final clause omitted from such copies.